

## UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
THE COMMANDANT  
REFER TO FILE:

WASHINGTON

(OMF)  
CG-628-COMP

12 January, 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CREW DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE,  
WAR SHIPPING ADMINISTRATION.

The Coast Guard has received from a reliable source the following information concerning Robert T. Bettis, Boatswain, aboard the SS JONATHAN GRDUT.

The report states Bettis was tried before a Summary Court in Alexandria, Egypt, in July 1943 on a charge of violating the 96th Article of War.

Specifications alleged he (1) refused to turn to at Margil, Iraq, about 28 April, 1943 (2) declared that he and the crew members were on a slow down strike (3) informed the Chief Officer that unless he and all the crew received certain monies, which they demanded on account of their pay, they would engage in a slow down strike, and upon this demand being refused, he, Bettis, then and there carried out this threat (4) engaged in a continuous campaign of provoking discord and dissension among crew members, advocating and engineering a slowing down of the work and interfering with the loading and unloading of the vessel.

Bettis was found guilty, on review, on specifications #3 #4 and not guilty on specifications #1 and #2. Sentence to hard labor for 4 months and a fine of \$100.00 was approved by the reviewing authority in July 1943.

The Coast Guard will instigate whatever further disciplinary action may be warranted in this case.

H. T. JEWELL  
Commander, U.S.C.G. -  
Chief, Merchant Marine  
Personnel Division

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NN 3-26-83-11  
By LW NARA. Date 5/25/17

*msb*